AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (currently amended) An integrated system for providing financial services comprising:

at least one workstation having a central processing unit and a video display screen;

at least one host server;, the at least one host server connected to the at least one workstation over a communication system for transmitting information between a workstation and at least one host server; and

an application interface operable on the workstation for accessing at least one a plurality of finance-related software applications comprising a real-time market data application and a financial planning application; and

a real-time investor monitoring system for monitoring investor mediated transactions, the system enabling a user therewith to provide timely proactive financial advice to investors.

2.   (currently amended) The integrated system as recited by claim 1, wherein the plurality of finance-related software applications further comprise at least one finance-related software application is selected from the group comprising consisting of: a real-time market data application; a financial planning application; a calculator application; a client information application; an opportunities application; an investment products application; an investment research application; and an office productivity application.

3.   (currently amended) The integrated system as recited by claim 1, wherein the finance-related software application is an investor monitoring system monitors at least one investor account and transmits to the user a communication regarding at least one for monitoring and participating in investor-mediated transactions on a real-time basis, thereby enabling the user to proactively intercede in the investor mediated transaction.

4.   (currently amended) The integrated system as recited by claim 1, wherein the finance-related software application is a real-time market data application that accesses a market data server to provides real-time market data comprising at least one of: quotes, news, and historical and intraday charting.

5.　　(currently amended) The integrated system as recited by claim 1, wherein the ~~finance-related software application is selected from the group comprising a~~ real-time market data application ~~and a financial planning application~~ <u>provides a valuation ratings for at least one financial instrument</u>.

6.　　(original) The integrated system as recited by claim 1, wherein the application interface further includes a scratchpad application for moving information between applications.

7.　　(original) The integrated system as recited by claim 1, wherein the communication system connects a workstation to at least one host server via the Internet.

8.　　(original) The integrated system as recited in claim 1, further comprising a financial advisor.

9.　　(original) The integrated system as recited by claim 1, further comprising an authentication system for determining user entitlements and accessing a user preference profile.

10.　　(original) The integrated system as recited by claim 9, wherein the authentication system populates the application interface based on the user entitlements.

11.　　(original) The integrated system as recited by claim 9, wherein the authentication system provides access to all applications using a single logon process.

12.　　(currently amended) A workstation <u>for use in</u> providing financial assistance, the workstation comprising: a

central processing unit;

a video display screen;

~~communication system for communicating between the workstation and at least one host server;~~

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an application interface operable on the workstation for accessing at least one finance related software application; and

an investor monitoring system, <u>wherein</u> <u>the workstation is connected to at least one host server over a communication system</u> which <u>enables communication</u> <u>between the workstation and at least one host server, and wherein</u> <u>the investor monitoring system monitors at least one investor account and transmits to the user a communication regarding at least one investor-mediated transactions on a real-time basis</u>.

13.   (currently amended) The workstation as recited by claim 12, wherein the financial-related software application~~s are selected from the group comprising~~ comprises at least one finance-related software application selected from the group consisting of: a real-time market data application; a financial planning application; a calculator application; a client information application; an opportunities application; an investment products application; an investment research application; and an office productivity application.

14.   (currently amended) An authentication system for creating an application interface for a financial assistance system, the authentication system comprising:

means for allowing access to <u>a plurality of finance-related software</u> applications permitted by a user entitlement level<u>, the plurality of finance-related software applications</u> <u>comprising a real-time market data application and a financial planning application</u>;

means for providing user preferences; ~~and~~

a system for controlling the access to applications and the user preferences<u>; and</u>

<u>a real-time investor monitoring system for monitoring investor mediated transactions</u>.

15.   (currently amended) A system for providing financial information to end users in a network environment having at least one workstation and a host computer comprising:

an application interface having:

means for selectively running and displaying a plurality of finance-related software applications simultaneously<u>, the plurality of finance-related software applications</u> <u>comprising a real-time market data application and a financial planning application</u>; and

means for controlling the display of the finance related software applications;
and

an authentication system having:

means for determining a set of finance-related software applications that a user is entitled to selectively run and display; and

means for setting user preferences for the user based on a stored user preference profile.

16.   (original) The system as recited by claim 15, further comprising:

means for executing a controller that maps server names; retrieves entitlement levels; retrieves entitlement data; retrieves user preference profile; creates a local user directory; activates application interface with retrieved entitlement data and user preferences; and launches application interface.